

THE BORDEN STAR

VOLUME XXVIII

March 22, 2000

Serving the Counties of Borden, Dawson, Garza, Howard, Lynn & Scurry

Ongoing drought costing Texas ranchers additional \$154 million

By Blair Fanning,

COLLEGE STATION:

Texas ranchers have spent an additional \$154 million in supplemental feed and water hauling expenses since summer of 1999 as a result of the ongoing drought that continues to plague the state, economists with the Texas Agricultural Extension Service report.

Stocks of hay that were thought to be adequate through the winter feeding season are almost depleted, with at least two months of feeding still expected even if there is future rainfall. Texas beef cow numbers dropped by 100,000 during 1999, according to the Texas Agricultural Statistics Service and occurred during a year when ranchers were planning to rebuild herds after the sell-offs of 1996 and 1998 due to drought.

Ranchers have also not been able to participate in an improved cattle market as herd liquidations nationally the past four years and liquidations in Texas during 1996 and 1998 have severely decreased cattle inventories across the United States.

"We still haven't been able to start rebuilding herds to take advantage of these prices," said Dr. Frnie Davis, an Extension livestock-marketing economist. "If we don't get some god winter and spring rains, there's going to be people scrambling all over the place for hay. We'll see hay prices go up and see maintenance-ration prices go up. As a result, we'll see people continue to liquidate their herds. Some are not in the financial position to have to subsidize feed for their herds for another year.

"That's where most of our losses have been in these additional feed costs, and some ranchers are hauling water now."

Beef cattle stocker operators and dryland wheat producers lost income due to the drought affecting available forage from planned winter stocker operations. Extension economist estimated that \$59 million could have been earned in the fall of 1999 had the drought not occurred. Feedlot placements were up 18 percent in December compared to 1998, another indicator of

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In the Borden County local election results, Billy J. Gannaway defeated Chuck Kimmel in a race for the Democratic nomination to run for the dual office of sheriff and tax assessor collector. Gannaway received 159 votes; Kimmel had 134.

In the race for Precinct 3 County Commissioner race, Ernest Reyes edged past Joe Harding for the Democratic nomination, 48 to 42.

Shirley Bennett and Jane Jones will face off April 11th in a runoff for the Democratic nomination for Justice of the Peace. Jones received 147 votes, Bennett 106 and Dorothy Wilson 45. There is no Republican candidate.

Below are the results of each polling place in the Democratic Primary:

..1 Plains	
Sheriff/Tax Assessor:	
Chuck Kimmel	21
Billy Gannaway	23
Justice of the Peace:	
Dorothy Wilson	9
Shirley Bennett	20
Jane Jones	16
County Commissioner:	
Precinct #1	
Doug Isaacs	43
2A South Gail	
Sheriff/Tax Assessor:	
Chuck Kimmel	13
Billy Gannaway	11

Justice of the Peace:		Justice of the Peace:	
Dorothy Wilson	7	Dorothy Wilson	8
Shirley Bennett	5	Shirley Benentt	28
Jane Jones	11	Jane Jones	19
2B Vealmoor/Ackerly		County Commissioner:	
Sheriff/Tax Assessor:		Precinct #1	
Chuck Kimmel	2	Ernest Reyes	33
Billy Gannaway	4	Joe Harding	22
Justice of the Peace:		4A North Gail	
Dorothy Wilson	0	Sheriff/Tax Assessor	
Shirley Bennett	4	Chuck Kimmel	32
Jane Jones	2	Billy Gannaway	32
3A Murphy		Justice of the Peace:	
Sheriff/Tax Assessor:		Dorothy Wilson	11
Chuck Kimmel	22	Shirley Bennett	14
Billy Gannaway	8	Jane Jones	39
Justice of the Peace:		4B Snelling	
Dorothy Wilson	0	Sheriff/Tax Assessor	
Shirely Bennett	19	Chuck Kimmel	6
Jane Jones	12	Billy Gannaway	14
County Commissioner:		Justice of the Peace:	
Precinct #3		Dorothy Wilson	4
Ernest Reyes	15	Shirley Bennett	5
Joe Harding	17	Jane Jones	15
3B Fairview		Absentee	
Sheriff/Tax Assessor:		Sheriff/Tax Assessor:	
Chuck Kimmel	24	Chuck Kimmel	14
Billy Gannaway	27		

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RUNOFF PRIMARY ELECTION

Accepting applications for ballot by mail
 April 3, 2000 **First day of early voting by personal appearance for April 11th runoff primary election in Borden County's clerk's office.**

April 4, 2000 **Last Day for early voting clerk to receive applications for ballot by mail.**

April 7, 2000 **Last day to vote early by personal appearance.**

April 11, 2000 **Runoff primary election day**

BHS Girls Win Four Medals in First Meet Varsity Boys' Team on Track; Claim Runner-up Spot at Rotan Meet While JV Boys run away with title scoring 96 points in JV competition

Continuing the pace they have set the past two weekends, the BHS boys' track team won 2nd out of 18 teams in last Saturday's meet at Rotan.

Coach Trey Richey's guys scored 83 points to finish runner-up to host Rotan, who will probably go on to make a strong run at the State Championship in May in Austin.

The girls, meanwhile, were competing in their first meet of the season. Coach Bobby Avery's young team scored 37 points. Only five track lettermen return to the girls team this year with the team welcoming seven freshmen.

Highlights of the meet for the boys included gold medal finishes for Trent Pepper—in both the 1600m and 3200m races; Robert Stamper (300m hurdles, leaving him undefeated on the year); and T.C. Stipe (800m run).

Silver medalists included T.C. Stipe in the 3200m run and the 1600m relay (Joseph Hardman, Trent Pepper, Robert Stamper, and T.C. Stipe).

Also scoring points for the Coyotes in Saturday's meet were Robert Stamper in the 110m high hurdles (4th), Lee Pepper in the pole vault with a jump of 11'0" (4th), Joseph Hardman in the 100m dash (6th), and Tom Griffin in the 400m dash (6th).

Though not scoring points in his triple jump performance, Joseph Hardman secured another school record with his leap of 41' 1 1/4" in an event highlighted by the

performance of Rotan's Josh Powell who jumped over 50'—the longest jump in Class A in the state.

The girls' team brought home four medals by virtue of Holly Thomas's second place finishes in the 1600m and 3200m races, Bekah Hensley's silver medal in the long jump, and Julie Mayes bronze medal in the 400m dash.

Rika Copeland also scored for the Coyotes with her 4th place finish in the shot put, with a distance of 33' 6 1/4". Bekah scored points as well in the 100m dash with a fifth place finish, and freshman Bobbie Kempf netted a point with 6th place in the 3200m run.

The boys' junior varsity, turning in another strong showing, had 10 medals to boast after Saturday's meet.

Gold medalists included Jacob Zant with a win in the high jump (5'6") and T. J. Sharp in the discus (117' 10").

Silver medalists for the boys' JV team were Jacob Zant in the pole vault (unfortunately, Jacob broke his ankle leaving the pit and that is the pits considering how well he has performed in three track meets already), Raul Rodriguez with two medals, one in the long jump (17' 7") and the other in the 100m dash.

The boys' two relay teams also won silver medals: the spring relay (Payton Brown, T.J. Sharp, Talin Pepper, and Ed Rodriguez) with a time of 49.80; the mile relay consisting of the same four young men (4:05:18).

Payton Brown also won two bronze medals with his third place finishes in the 800m run and in the triple jump (35'). T.J. Sharp won his third medal of the day with a 3rd place finish in the 200m dash (25.54).

Also scoring for the JV boys were Payton Brown (5th, long jump) and T.J. Sharp (5th, shot put).

Other Coyote and Lady Coyote participants in the Rotan track meet are listed below:

Hardman, 200m dash and long jump; Ed Rodriguez, spring relay, long jump, and triple jump; Nick Flanigan, discus; Cody Nowlain, sprint relay, 400m dash, and 200m dash; Rowdy Dunlap, sprint relay, 100m dash, 200m dash, and discus; Talin Pepper, 400m dash, high jump, and pole vault; Valerie Wootan, 800m run, sprint relay, 800m relay and discus; Krystle Lee, shot put; Copeland, discus; Jessica Ellison, shot put; Tahnee Sanchez, discus and 100m dash; Michele Bond, 100m hurdles and 400m dash; Kylia Culp, sprint relay and 200m dash; Micah Hensley, 800m relay, mile relay, 300m hurdles, triple jump, and long jump; B. Kempf, mile relay; D. Kempf, 3200m run; Rodriguez, 100m dash, 200m dash, and sprint relay; Laura Stamper, sprint relay, 100m hurdles, and 300m hurdles; J. Mayes, triple jump; B. Hensley, triple jump.

The next meet for all teams is Friday in Jayton with field events beginning at 1 p.m.

One-Act Play Cast & Crew Goes Into the Woods BC Production Advances

Take a set covered in leaves, a golden slipper, a red cape, a white cow, yellow hair, and a curse: What do you have? Five mixed-up fairy tales all wrapped into one, of course, as the Borden County High School One-Act Play took the stage this past Tuesday with their adaptation of Stephen Sondheim and James Lapine's *Into the Woods* in the District 9-A, East Zone, One-Act Play contest.

The One-Act Play competition was held in the Borden County I.S.D. auditorium Tuesday, March 21st, with five schools being represented. The plays started at 2:30 p.m. with Ira High School's *And They Dance Real Slow in Jackson*. Westbrook High School performed next with *Ladies of the Tower*. Borden County was third, followed by Sands with *A Game*. Finishing the contest was Hermleigh with their production of *Ondine*.

An awards ceremony followed the competition to announce individual honors and to name the two plays that advance to the District competition to be held Thursday, March 23rd, at Dawson High School. The Borden County High School and Ira High School productions were selected as these two advancing plays.

Winning individual honors from Borden County were Best Actress: Bekah Hensley; All-Star Cast: Holly Thomas and D.J. Smith; and Honorable Mention All-Star Cast: Joseph Hardman, Justin Lawrence, and Krystle Lee.

The B.C.H.S. production of *Into the Woods* centers on a new fairy tale of a Baker and his Wife, played by juniors D.J. Smith and Bekah

Hensley. A curse that disables the couple from having children has been placed on their house by a Witch (junior Holly Thomas). The couple goes "into the woods" to find items that will reverse the curse. This is where the regular Grimm Brothers' fairy tales enter into the scene.

The couple must first get a "cape as red as blood" from Little Red Ridinghood (senior Erica Schooler). A wolf (senior Justin Lawrence) gets in the way, however. The couple then obtains a "cow as white as milk" from Jack, the one of beanstalk fame. Juniors James Bond and Kandace Kimmel portray Jack and his domineering mother.

"Hair as yellow as corn" then becomes the object of their quest as Rapunzel (freshman Michele Bond) lets down her hair from her tower, much to the delight of her Prince (sophomore Cody Nowlain).

The final fairy tale that is brought into the play is that of Cinderella (junior Krystle Lee). She wishes to go to the King's Festival and Ball and is eventually pursued by another Prince (Justin Lawrence). Her stepmother (senior Hailey Adcock) and stepsisters (freshmen Micah Hensley and Laura Stamper) interrupt her desire to attend the festival, though. When Cinderella meets up with the Baker's Wife, the humor of the play begins.

Also in the production are the show's Narrator, who doubles as a Mysterious Man (senior Joseph Hardman), and freshman Oralia Galicia as Little Red Ridinghood's Granny.

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U.I.L. Academic Teams Polish for Perfection

District Meet Next Week

The Borden County High School U.I.L. Academic Teams are putting the finishing touches on their thinking caps this week in preparation for next week's District 9-A Academic Meet. A full slate of competitors are set to represent B.C.H.S. on Monday and Thursday at the meet, which is being held at Wellman-Union High School.

The competitors from Borden County in the general academic events are:

Accounting

Abby Flanigan;

Computer Applications

John Harding;

Current Issues & Events

Ross Aten, Nick Flanigan, Ryan Sanders, & Robert Stamper;

Literary Criticism

Erica Schooler, Joseph Hardman, Valerie Wootan, & Tom Griffin;

Ready Writing

Erica Schooler, Lindsey Smith, & Tom Griffin;

Spelling & Vocabulary

Andrea Lozano, Jessica Ellison, Rika Copeland, & Holly Thomas.

Math and science competitors include:

Calculator Applications

Trent Pepper, Talin Pepper, Michele Bond, & Payton Brown;

Mathematics

Trent Pepper, Valerie Wootan, & Abby Flanigan;

Number Sense

Valerie Wootan, Brionne Jackson, Michele Bond, & Micah Hensley;

Science

Nick Flanigan, Ryan Sanders, & Ramon Griffin,

Entered in the speech and debate events are:

Informative Speaking

Kandace Kimmel, Michele Bond, & Laura Stamper;

Persuasive Speaking

Krystle Lee, Trent Pepper, & Jerry Hernandez;

Poetry Interpretation

Krystle Lee, Laura Stamper, & Micah Hensley;

Prose Interpretation

Bekah Hensley, D.J. Smith, & Holly Thomas;

Lincoln-Douglas Debate

Kandace Kimmel & Jacob Zant.

The entries in the journalism events are:

News Writing

Shawna Ellison, Julie Mayes, & Robert Stamper;

Feature Writing

Jana Himes, Kaci Poole, & D.J. Smith;

Editorial Writing

Adrianna Baeza, Trent Pepper, Jana Himes, & Ross Aten, alternate;

Headline Writing

Jerry Hernandez, Julie Mayes, & Nick Flanigan.

Good luck to all of the competitors from Borden County. Represent us well, and let's try send even more to Regionals than we did last year!

Jones describes in almost biographical terms the decisions people make in life and how everyone must live with the results of those 'choices.'

Over the course of his career as a Country music entertainer, Jones has won many Country music awards and was inducted into the Country Music Hall of fame in 1992.

Reserved seating tickets for the George Jones show are \$20 and go on sale Saturday, March 25, at Luskey's/Ryon's, 5034 Frankford; Ralph's Records, 909 University or 3322 82nd St; and Luckey's Work Boot & Outlet, 2431 34th St. Tickets will be available during regular business hours at the ticket outlet.

Tickets to the George Jones show do not include

*From the Counselor:
By Mary Airhart*

TAAS Test Dates Approaching

TAAS testing is scheduled statewide as follows:

Tues. April 11th

Mathematics for grades: 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 & 8

Wed. April 12th

Reading for grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, & 8

Thurs. April 13th

Social Studies for grade 8 only

Friday, April 14th

Science for grade 8 only

NOTE TO PARENTS:

TAAS testing will begin promptly at 8:15 A.M. each of these days. The tests are untimed, and students are allowed as much time as needed. Most students will complete the tests within the first three hours of the day, but some students will require more time. Please schedule

gate admission to the mini-fair. Gate admission is \$2 for adults 12 or older and children younger than 12 are admitted to the fair grounds free of charge.

May Fest 2000, celebration the coming of summer, will feature a limited number of commercial exhibits and non-profit food booths, coliseum shows, a small carnival provided by popular 1999 South Plains Fair carnival provider, Reed Exposition Midway, and professional talent appearing on an outdoor stage located near the carnival midway, as well as professional talent in the coliseum. Current plans for the festival call for use of the fairgrounds in the area surrounding the Coliseum, Trade Mart, Food Midway and Carnival Midway. May Fest 2000 is sponsored by Panhandle South Plains Fair Association.

medical and dental appointments around these testing dates so that all students who are not ill maybe present for testing. Teachers have prepared the students mentally and academically for success. Please add your encouragement and insure that the students are rested and eat a good breakfast.

As always, we appreciate your help and concern to keep our school academically strong. If you have questions or suggestions, please contact me.

Menu

Lunch: \$1.00 K-6th.
\$1.25 7th-12th.
Breakfast: .50c

March 27-30, 2000

MONDAY: Beef & Bean Burrito, Potato Wedges, Salad, Fruit Square & Milk

Breakfast: Cinnamon Rolls, Fruit, Juice & Milk

TUESDAY: Lasagna, Baby Carrots, Green Beans, Garlic Toast, Jello & Milk

Breakfast: Egg & Cheese English Muffin, Fruit, Juice & Milk

WEDNESDAY: Corn Dogs, Salad, Cheese Potatoes, Fruit & Milk

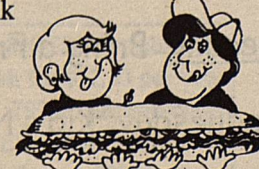
Breakfast: Sausage Gravy, Biscuit, Juice & Milk

THURSDAY: Chicken, Corn, Potatoes, Hot Rolls, Fruit & Milk

Breakfast: Oatmeal, Toast, Juice, & Milk

FRIDAY: Steak Sandwich, Tater tots, Salad Cup, Brownie, & Milk

Breakfast: Hot Pockets, Hash Browns, Juice, & Milk



George Jones May Fest 2000 Appearance

Steve L. Lewis, Panhandle South Plains Fair manager, announced today that Country music legend George Jones will perform in concert during the 1st annual May Fest 2000, set for May 3-7 at the fairgrounds.

Jones, known for his many hit songs as well as for his tumultuous lifestyle, will appear in an 8 p.m. Fair Park coliseum show Saturday, May 6. One of the original country greats from the 1950's Jones has been a favorite Country performer for nearly half a century beginning with his first hit "White Lightning." Since that first hit song he has gone on to have thirteen number one hits,

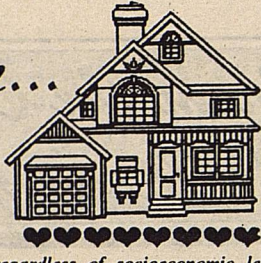
and more than 80 top ten hits, all from more than one hundred albums.

Long considered the greatest living Country star, the thought of Jones' possible demise from a recent car accident prompted an outpouring of love and appreciation from loyal fans across the country and around the world. But true to his nickname, "Ole Possum," Jones not only survived the accident but also has comeback in his musical career stronger than ever.

Now, with the release of his new album, "Cold Hard Truth" which Jones said "could be a story of my life," and the hit single from the album, "Choices,"

Heart and home...

By Julie D. Mumme
Borden County, Extension Agent -
Family and Consumer Sciences



Extension programs serve people of all ages regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, sex, religion, disability, or national origin. the Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating.

Stretch Your Clothing Dollar

You can look like a million for much less, by stretching your clothing dollar. Here are 7 basic rules to follow:

- 1) Start with a shopping plan, and stick to it. Aimless bargain hunting and impulse buying can waste time, money and energy. Remember that nothing is a bargain unless you need it.
- 2) Investigate all sources of clothes in your area (such as used clothing shops, catalogs and mail order). Compare the merchandise available, in quality and price, and the policies and procedures.
- 3) Buy only completely and correctly labeled clothes. Fiber content and care instructions tell what to expect in terms of wear and care of the garment. If a salesperson makes unwritten claims about the garment's perfor-

mance and care, ask that these claims be written on your sales slip.

- 4) Add upkeep to the price of clothing, including dry cleaning costs and time for laundering.
- 5) Buying a good fit in clothes minimizes alteration costs. Try clothes on in front of a three-way mirror if possible, and check the fit by sitting, walking, bending, stretching and reaching. Use body measurements when buying by mail, in thrift shops and when buying patterns.
- 6) For clothes that will get a lot of wear, buy better fabric and construction; well-made clothing may cost a bit more, but it wears better.
- 7) To match colors, take the item or a swatch of fabric to the store

Walk Across Texas

Well, it is time once again for the Walk Across Texas program. With the weather becoming warmer, it is time to get out and enjoy the fresh air. What a better way to enjoy it than to start exercising! We will begin keeping track this year on Monday, April 10th and conclude on Friday, May 26th. It will only last seven weeks this year, but hopefully participants will be able to develop a "habit" of daily exercise. We will again form teams and keep track of our mileage. If you are interested in participating in the Walk Across Texas program, please contact the Extension office to sign up. We would like to beat our 3000 miles walked last year, and together we can do it!

and check the colors in artificial light as well as daylight.

Remember - it's up to YOU to get the best value. Carefully plan, make a list, decide on the amount of money you have to spend, comparison shop and care for your clothing properly.

Election Results

Cont. from pg. 1

Billy Gannaway	40	Chuck Kimmel	134
Justice of the Peace:		Billy Gannaway	159
Dorothy Wilson	10	Justice of the Peace:	
Shirley Bennett	11	Dorothy Wilson	45
Jane Jones	33	Shirley Bennett	106
County Commissioner:		Jane Jones	147
Precinct #1		County Commissioners:	
Dough Isaacs	8	Precinct #1	
Precinct #3		Doug Isaacs	51
Ernest Reyes	0	Precinct #3	
Joe Harding	3	Ernest Reyes	48
TOTAL		Joe Harding	42
Sheriff/Tax Assessor:			

Drive Safely



Watch out for the Children . . .

Thank You!

I would like to take this opportunity to THANK all the people who went to the Polls last Tuesday and supported me in the March 14th Democratic Primary

As I am sure you are aware there will be a run-off election for the Borden County Justice of the Peace. I am asking for your continued support in the up-coming April 11th run-off.

Sincerely, Jane Jones

Paid Political Advertisement by Jane Jones

Spring Revival

Gail Baptist Church

April 2nd - 5th

Sunday evening service 6:00 p.m.

Mon. thru Wed. services 7:00 p.m.

Bro. Jim Hart, Speaker, Brownwood

Bro. JWT Spies, Music, Lamesa

Sunday: Community Fellowship Night

(bring a freezer of ice cream & goodies for fellowship following services)

Monday: Family Night

Tuesday: Bring a Friend Night

Wednesday: Kid's Night



Come join us
and be Blessed!

Dear Borden County Friends,

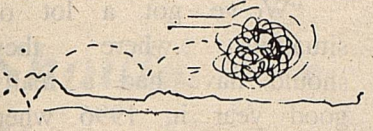
It is hard to believe one year has passed since Allan had his surgery. So much has happened in so little time - and yet we still have so far to go.

Our family began Allan's adventure with your support and we continue to feel that support through your prayers and kind words and smiles. I want to thank you all again for that support. You have given to our family as a whole, and to Allan, Valerie, and me individually. I can't imagine going through these circumstances anywhere else.


Merely saying "Thank you," to people who have lent a hand in so many ways just doesn't seem to be enough, but it is all I have to offer.

I sincerely thank you,
Judy Wootan





Texas Stories
A showcase of the Texas Spirit



Tumbleweed Smith
Part owner of Texas

An Olive Drab Fund Raiser

While a student at Baylor University during the fifties, I had the privilege of taking some drama courses from Paul Baker, a genius whose creativity has influenced theaters around the world.

His Baylor Theater had stages surrounding the audience, which was seated in swivel chairs. He tore up copies of Thomas Wolfe's 800-page novel *Of Time and the River* and handed out segments to small groups of students and told them to "put this on stage." When he directed *Hamlet* he had three actors playing the major roles. A film was made of that play and it won the Cinematography Award at the Brussels World Fair in 1958. I'm proud to say I played one-third of Horatio in the production.

His course called "The Integration of Abilities" was the most lively course on campus at the time. Students from every field of study took it and learned how to realize their potential as a creative person.

Recently the Southwestern Writers Collection at Southwest Texas State in San Marcos was the recipient of some of his papers, videos and audiotapes. Many of Baker's former students and colleagues were on hand for the presentation.

Gene McKinney, who taught play writing, told about an event, which, occurred shortly after World War Two, when McKinney started teaching

at Baylor. He called Baker "Prof".

Prof stopped me in the lobby. I noticed that his neck was bowed, his head was jutting forward and his chin was out. I recognized immediately that this was his going into battle mode, as though he was going to use his head as a battering ram, possibly on me.

He stared at me and asked curtly, "do you think I look poor and need money?"

I had never viewed Prof as a natty dresser, but on this day he looked awful. Ancient sport coat and tie, baggy pants too short, exposing his GI olive drab socks from his Army days. But it was his shirt that distressed me. Frayed collar, faded color, but even worse, one sleeve cuff was held together by a large paper clip.

I decided evasion was the best way to answer his question. I replied, "why do you ask?"

He said, "I'm on my way to battle the administration about next year's budget. The drama department needs a lot more money. I thought I might help our cause if I went over looking as poor as our department."

Poka Lambro Annual Meeting

The 49th Annual Membership Meeting of Poka Lambro Telephone Cooperative, Inc. is scheduled for Thursday, March 30, 2000. The meeting will be held at the Poka Lambro business office located 11.5 miles north of Tahoka, Texas on US Hwy. 87.

Member registration will begin at 11:00 a.m. followed by lunch at 12:00 noon. The business meeting will begin at 1:00 p.m. One important item of business on the agenda is the election of three directors of the Cooperative. The Poka Lambro Nominating Committee met

February 22, 2000 and nominated the following Poka Lambro members to be voted upon:

District 3: Russell Cox and Ralph Williams (Incumbent)

District 5: Carolyn Askew and Kenneth Eaker (Incumbent)

District 7: Glen Brosch and Wendell Morrow (Incumbent)

Other highlights of the meeting will include the presentation of Poka Lambro scholarships. All Poka Lambro members are encouraged to attend the Annual Meeting. For more information contact Amy Preston at 1-800-422-2387

Local JP attends Seminar

Local Justice of the Peace, Judge Shirley M. Bennett was certified at the recent Twenty-Hour Justice of the Peace seminar held March 5-8, 2000 in San Antonio, Texas. The seminar was sponsored by the Texas Justice Court Training Center, a division of Southwest Texas State University, with offices in Austin, Texas. The seminar is one of five held for elected Justices of the Peace so they can fulfill their continuing Judicial Education Requirements as set forth in Article 27.005 of the Texas Government Code. The seminar addressed topics such as Judicial Ethics, New Legislation, Traffic Laws, Inquests, Family Violence, Country Courts, Deferred Disposition, Landlord Tenant Issues, Hot Checks, Probable Cause Search and Arrest Warrants, Juvenile Law: School and Criminal Issues and Legal Research.

Thank You!

I would like to THANK YOU for allowing me to continue to serve the citizens of Borden County.

I appreciate your votes and support.

Billy J. Gannaway

Paid Political Advertisement by Billy J. Gannaway, Gail, Texas

I told him he certainly looked like he needed some money.

He lunged through the front door, his head jutting forward. When he came back from the meeting, his head had returned to its normal position and he was semi-triumphant. I asked him how he did.

He said, "not great, but better than last year. I think it was because this year I added the GI socks and the paper clip."

Paul Baker usually gets what he asks for.

Hunting Lodge

House in Spur, Texas ready to be converted into Hunting Lodge. Large common room ideal for parties, dominoes, visiting and relaxing after a long day of hunting.

Bedrooms will accommodate 8 - 16 or more, 2-1/2 baths, kitchen and dining area combined.

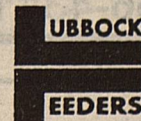
Across street from video store.

Priced to sell at \$19.50 a square foot.

Call for appointment to see possibilities.

Bob Dyess (806)439-6624 or

Bill Dyess (254)772-2392



Lubbock Feeders, LLC

VAN YORK

Owner/Safety & Environmental Manager

Phone: 806/745-4587

Fax: 806/745-1304

Res.: 806/794-9147

P.O. Box 53780

Lubbock, Texas 79453-3780

E-Mail: vyork@lubbockfeeders.com

Your Local Pastor . . .

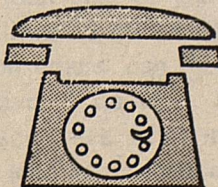
Is as near as your PHONE

Bro. Randy Hardman

Gail Baptist Church

Call: 806/756-4363

Mobile No: 759-9472



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Ongoing Drought Costing Texas Ranchers

Cont. from pg. 1

poor range conditions.

Davis said the cattle inventory across the nation is at a low enough level that prices will continue to be strong.

"If Texas has a run at the markets, we'll have buyers coming in from all over the country because feedlots are scrambling for supplies," Davis said. "Last year's calf crop and this year's calf crop were small, and they are going to run out of feeder cattle."

Replacement heifers, female calves that are retained for breeding stock, have also been on the decrease. Davis said when ranchers begin retaining heifers for their herds, that affects feeder cattle supplies.

"Normally heifer-steer slaughter is 65 percent steers and 35 percent heifers," Davis said. "The last three years, the heifer slaughter rate has been running about 40 to 41 percent of total slaughter. It's been 5 to 6 percent higher than normal, meaning not many of those heifers are being held back. They're being taken to market, forced to slaughter just to get cash

flow for the ranches. It's not a matter of profits, it's a matter of cash flow (for ranchers.)"

With the exception of the Coastal Bend and surrounding area where Hurricane Bret brought rains in August, stock ponds are drying up. Water that is presently available is of poor quality. Ranchers are hauling water in some areas of the state to keep animals alive. Some dairy operations are on municipal water systems where water rationing is expected soon.

Sheep and lamb inventory was down 11 percent Jan. 1 compared to last year. Goat numbers were down 4 percent on Jan. 2 from the same time last year.

Deer and other wildlife species are in poor condition due to the dry fall period. Poor conception rates and high winter mortality are expected.

The drought is also jeopardizing spring planting. Spring planting normally begins in February in South Texas, and timely rains are critical to salvaging the 2000 crop.

While major losses

have not occurred yet for crops, they could be in the near future. Extension economists say that if 2000 is somewhat similar to the 1996 Texas drought, crop losses could approach 20 percent less of normal production. If the dry weather continues as it did in the 1998 drought, losses could approach 50 percent of normal production. These potential producers losses could mean losses of \$637 million and \$1.5 billion respectively.

"Not only are we looking at a potential pro-

duction shortfall, but commodity prices are extremely bleak," said Dr. Roland Smith, Extension economist. "You put the low price situation in combination with low production, then we're going to need government assistance like we got in 1998 and 1999 to keep our farmers and ranchers going."

Smith said many farmers were counting on a profitable year in 1996, which would have helped ease the financial stress occurred to the 1998 drought.

"We've got a lot of situations where they should have had a really good year in 1996 when prices were good, and if they had anything of normal production, they would have built up some cash reserve," Smith said. "But they weren't able to capitalize on those prices like their neighbors in Oklahoma and Nebraska. Our Texas farmers and ranchers were in worse shape to withstand those kinds of losses than we've experienced in the last four years of this decade."

IMPORTANT EVENT! MONDAY, MARCH 27TH "Red" Steagall to perform at HEPA Membership Meeting!

On Monday, March 27th, HEPA is holding an important general membership meeting from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. **famous country singer/poet Red Steagall will perform for us.** Red has agreed to contribute his performance free of charge to support our fight against the RBTI.

Brady Bowen and his Swing Country Band will provide music before and during a chili-dog supper, followed by an update on the latest developments with the RBTI. Red Steagall will begin his performance after the RBTI update.




A donation of \$20 per person will be charged at the door to raise money for HEPA and cover the cost of the meeting. Every HEPA member is urged to attend and bring any prospective members along! Even though we are 1,000 strong, we need all like-minded people to join us in our fight.

The meeting is at Wagon Wheel Ranch located on CR 2128 about 10 miles north of Snyder. The music will start at 5:30 p.m. so come early if you'd like. PLEASE BE THERE!

From Snyder: Go 8 miles west on US 84 to FM 1142. Turn right and go 3 miles to CR 2128. Turn left on CR 2128 and go 1 mile to the Ranch.


From Post: Go about 32 miles east on US 84 to CR 2128. Turn left on CR2128.

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Should You Lease or Buy Your Next Vehicle?

Want to upgrade your minivan and you're not sure if you should lease or buy? Ask yourself these questions to see which payment option will best fit your needs.

How do you know if you should lease? How much money do you really save with a lease? What are the disadvantages of having a leasing contract? And what tips should you remember?

"One of the areas people often overlook when leasing a vehicle is the cost of insurance," Willy Graves, president of Progressive County Mutual of Texas, said. "And, this could come as a surprise to some drivers used to having only the state's minimum."

"The state requires that all vehicles have liability coverage," Graves explained. "But, the leaseholder will require property damage coverage as part of the lease arrangement to protect the vehicle."

Calculating Costs

*Generally a lease monthly payment that is two percent or less than the manufacturer's suggested retail price is worth a second look. Don't forget to check out all the other fees included in your contract, the extra cost may be transferred on to other charges.

*Leasing may be the best option if you want a new car every three to four years. After your contract ends you can drive up to the dealership, hand over your keys and drive away with a different contract.

*Even though you don't have to hassle with trading-in or independently selling your vehicle, your flexibility is limited with contracts. Make sure you'll be able to meet all terms

of your lease before you sign. If you back out of your deal, you may have to pay big time.

*A typical lease allows for 15,000 miles a year. Check your mileage and find out what your driving style is. If you drive more and still want to lease, negotiate the cost of the additional miles up front because extra miles can run from 10 to 25 cents for each mile over the contracted limit.

Calculating Savings

*Leases, as often advertised, have low down payments. Negotiate a lease as if you are buying. Some dealers not only drop their prices, but may also waive the down payment altogether. You should remember that, as in any financial deal, the more you put down the lower your monthly payments will be.

*When you lease you are paying off the depreciation, the wear and tear you inflict on the car while it is in your possession. Because of this, your monthly lease payments are usually low, especially if you put a lot down.

*If you keep your vehicle in mint condition you may want to rethink leasing. Reason being, you may be paying for depreciation you are not causing. If you purchase a car you can be rewarded for that care and build good equity for future investments.

*Contract agreements sometimes include minor car repairs.

*If you use your car for business purposes and deduct a portion of your car's depreciation from your taxes, you can usually deduct more if you lease. Some deductions on luxury

cars are limited.

Disadvantages in Leasing

*Your money is not going towards owning anything. When you finance, a day will come when you won't have any more payments. The purchase of a vehicle can earn you equity and build a good credit history.

*You are responsible for all damages to the car beyond normal wear and tear. In the case of accidents or stolen cars, insurance will only reimburse you for the car's market value, which may not cover what you owe on your lease. To avoid this, buy "gap insurance" to cover the difference between what you owe on the lease and what the car is worth if it's stolen or totaled in an accident.

*Early termination of your lease can really hurt your pocket book. Depending on your contract terms, it can cost you as much as six extra months payments. Ask about these penalties before you sign a lease.

*You may have to pay annual property taxes.

More Tips to Remember

*Shop as if you're buying a car.

*Negotiate all lease terms and get them in writing.

*Ask whether extra charges will be added for excessive mileage, wear and tear and early termination, and find out the amount of those charges.

*Make sure the manufacturer's warranty covers the entire lease term and number of miles you are likely to drive.

* Add insurance quotes to your negotiated price to get the total cost of leasing (By calling 1-800-AUTO-PRO consumers can get a Progressive quote and comparison rates from up to three leading insurance companies).

Thank You! I would like to Thank the voters of Borden County for their support in the March 14th Democratic Primary.

Sincerely,
Joe Harding

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Cotton News

from Plains Cotton Growers, Inc.

PCG'S 43rd Annual Meeting Line-up Changes

LUBBOCK, March 17, 2000
By Shawn Wade

Plains cotton Growers, Inc. has shuffled its speaker line-up for the organization's 43rd Annual Meeting, Thursday, April 6, 2000 at the Lubbock Memorial Civic Center. The PCG Annual Meeting is being held in conjunction with the Texas Cotton Ginners' Association Trade Show and convention April 6-7 in Lubbock.

PCG's revised line-up will now include Keith Kelly, Administrator of USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA). Kelly will replace previously scheduled speaker Gus Schumacher, Under Secretary for Farm and Foreign Agricultural Service.

As FSAS Administrator, Mr. Kelly reports to the Under Secretary of Agriculture for Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services, and is responsible for the administration of farm commodity programs, agricultural credit programs and certain disaster and Federal crop insurance programs.

The PCG membership will also hear from J. Berrye Worsham, III, CEO of Cotton Incorporated and Dr. Mark Lange, Director of Economic Services for the National Cotton Council in Memphis, TN.

Kelly will be asked to discuss the Department's views on Ag policy and which direction it feels U.S. agricultural policy should be directed.

The PCG meeting will begin with registration at 8:30 a.m. and start the program promptly at 9:00 a.m. in Room 107 of the Lubbock Memorial Civic Center. Agenda items in-

clude remarks from outgoing PCG President Don Langston of Lubbock, reports from PCG Executive Vice President Steve Verett, Plains Cotton Improvement committee Chairman Dale Swinburn of Tulia.

UPDATE - 1999 Disaster Assistance Program

The long wait for 1999 Disaster Assistance should be coming to an end relatively soon as USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) County offices prepare to unload Disaster program data to Washington.

The upload, originally scheduled for March 6 has been pushed back to March 27 to allow FSA offices to process and finalize applications made by producers.

Past experience shows that once the data is uploaded to Washington a final payment rate should be determined within 2-3 weeks and checks issued.

If that timetable holds true this time around producers would receive checks before the end of April.

Qualifying producers who signed-up for the program before the February 25 cut-off date received an advance payment equal to 35 percent of the total amount they were eligible to receive.

Once the data gets to Washington total dollars available to the program will be compared to the total amount of qualifying payments to determine whether or not the final payment needs to be factored.

Additional information will be provided, as it becomes available.

Congress Recognized Need for 2000 April

House Budget Committee members have recognized the need for additional farm sector support and set-aside \$5 Billion to protect farmers against another year of low commodity prices and excessive commodity supplies.

The action by the House Budget Committee guarantees that funds will be available for fiscal 2001 spending beginning October 1.

One-Act Play Cast & Crew Goes Into the Woods

Cont. from pg. 2

Serving as crew for the production are senior Shawna Ellison (lights) and freshman Carolina Arellanos (sound).

Come support the Borden County High School One-Act Play at the district contest. The plays start at 1:30 with Ira Borden County follows at approximately 2:10 or 2:15. Grady and Dawson, the plays that advanced to the district contest from the West Zone, will follow

Borden County's production. *The contest will maintain a closed-door policy during each play, so make sure you get there before each play begins.* The top two plays from this contest will advance to the Area round to be held April 6th, at Eden High School. "Break a leg," Borden!



Any Ag disaster program would move through the normal appropriations process. The Appropriations Committee will also determine the final size of any aid package. The Budget committee recommendation will likely be the starting point for agricultural assistance in 2000.

House Ag Committee Chairman Larry Combest has stated, 'Whatever else

we have to do, we're going to do it.' He also pledged to work to provide more aid if low prices and forecasts of continued drought conditions in the South and Midwest bear out.

Senate Budget Committee recommendations for fiscal 2001 are expected to include a similar amount for disaster assistance.

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Testing and Applications will be taken at the Borden County Community Center on Saturday, March 25th; April 8th; and April 22nd, beginning at 10:00 a.m.

For more information in the Borden County area please call: Gene Quigly at (915)263-7013 or Call the Local Census Office at (806)785-6740 or 1-888-325-7733

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Gail	Coyote Country Store	756-4330	12:00-1:00 PM
Lamesa	The Country Store	872-2422	2:00-3:00 PM
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